

Products

A variety of products were produced for this project. In addition to this report, 1:24,000 scale hard copy final paper maps were prepared. These consist of the wetland, riparian and land use/land cover delineations overlaid on a copy of the USGS topographic map for each quadrangle (Figure 3). Final maps are available from the Regional Map Distribution Center in Brookings, South Dakota at 605-688-5890. Arc Info digital data consisting of a wetland, riparian and land use/land cover layer were produced from these maps for use in geographical information systems. Digital data can be downloaded through the NWI home page on the Internet at <http://www.nwi.fws.gov>. Polygon acreage, linear miles and point summaries for all wetland, riparian and upland features were also produced for each of the fourteen quads in the study area. A variety of ancillary products such as color-coded maps and plots may be produced using the digital data in conjunction with a GIS.

Results

Polygon features are measured during the digitization process to obtain areas in acres. Linear and point data are buffered during area calculations and included in the acreage figures in the text to make them as accurate as possible. Linear distances are listed in miles on the feature summaries and were converted to acreages on the assumption that they have an average width of 10 feet. Points are listed by frequency or number and were converted to acreages assuming each point averages 0.1 acre.

Although linear and point data may seem minor in comparison to polygon data they are still a significant portion of the overall data in the Yellowstone River study area. For example, there are 167 miles or 203 acres of roads that were mapped as linear features in the study area (Appendix F).

Riverine and Palustrine Wetlands

The National Wetlands Inventory identified and mapped 55 categories of wetlands and deepwater habitats occupying 7,750 acres in the Yellowstone River project area (Appendix D). These figures include buffered linear and point data. All wetlands identified were classified in two systems, riverine and palustrine. Riverine wetlands and deepwater habitats (including sand and gravel bars) make up the largest percentage of wetland habitats and cover 4,198 acres or 54 percent of all wetlands within the project area. Rivers and streams in this area are either intermittent with water flowing only a part of the year, or perennial where some water flows throughout the year. The majority of perennial rivers and streams in the project area are upper perennial with the Yellowstone River itself comprising the largest feature of this type. Ninety seven percent by area of streams in the project area are upper perennial. Unconsolidated